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## FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

[Reports to the Surgeon-General, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service.]

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### AFRICA.

*Report from Cape Colony—Examination for plague-infected rodents.*

Reports of the medical officer of health of Cape Colony for the week ended October 24, 1905, show no new cases of plague and no deaths from that disease. Plague-infected rats and mice were, however, found in Port Elizabeth. No plague infection was discovered among rodents at East London, King Williams Town, or in other districts of the colony.

### BRAZIL.

*Report from Rio de Janeiro—Inspection of vessels—Plague, smallpox, and yellow fever—Rat destruction.*

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, October 27, as follows:

During the week ended October 22 the following vessels were inspected and bills of health issued from this consulate-general: On the 16th instant the British steamship *Canning*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, 3 first class and 1 steerage passengers, and with no change in the crew personnel; on the 17th instant the British steamship *Astraea*, for Port Eads, La., for orders, with no cargo, in water ballast, and with no passengers, and no change in the personnel of the crew while in this port; on the same date the German bark *Bremen*, for Santiago de Cuba, in stone ballast, no passengers, and with no change in the personnel of the crew while in this port; and on the 21st instant the British steamship *Newburn*, for New York, with a cargo of coffee, no passengers, and with no change in the personnel of the crew while in this port.

No other vessels requiring inspection left this port for United States, Canal Zone, or Cuban ports during the week.

During the week ended October 22 there were in all 305 deaths recorded, of which number 2 were caused by yellow fever, with 5 new cases reported. Only 2 cases were, however, verified as yellow fever, the remaining 3 being placed under observation. One death was caused by bubonic plague, with 9 new cases reported, and 2 were caused by smallpox, with a total of 7 new cases reported.

At the end of the week there were in the hospital São Sebastião 37 cases of smallpox, 15 cases of plague, with 11 cases under observation, but no cases of yellow fever.

The total number of rats killed during the week by the "rat hunters" on behalf of the health department of this city was 7,555, making a total for the current year to date of 688,663.